## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

PROJECT TITLE	Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project / 1st 48 Roadside Fuelbreak Collaborative Project				
Project Location	The project area lies within the Mad River Ranger District of the Six Rivers National Forest, in Trinity County, California. T2S, R8E, Sec. 6, 7, 8, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33; and T2S, R7E, Sec. County Trinity 11, 12 and 13, Humboldt Baseline and Meridian				
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)				
CONTACT	David Jaramillo, RPF 2839 <u>david@thewatershedcenter.com</u>				
ADDRESS	P.O Box 356, Hayfork, CA. 96041		530-628-4206		

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This assessment is based on creating shaded roadside fuelbreaks, by thinning from below, and reducing hazardous fuels on approximately 500 acres within the larger 821 acre project area associated with the 1st 48 Roadside Fuelbreak Collaborative Project prepared by the Six Rivers National Forest

Through this project, "The Proposed Action would establish roadside fuelbreak networks (both tree shaded and unshaded where open forest conditions occur) over approximately 821 acres within the wildland-urban interface (WUI). Fuelbreaks would be established along either side of Forest Service Roads (FSR). All proposed treatments would occur at varying widths, from a minimum of 25 feet on one side up to 275 on the other, not exceeding a total 300 foot width. All proposed treatments would reduce hazardous surface and ladder fuels and breakup intermingled tree crown fuels, while maintaining sufficient tree shade to curb brush response. Hazardous fuels (trees up to 8-inch diameter at breast height (dbh)) would be hand-cut with chainsaws, chipped, pruned and brush masticated, followed by machine (dozer or small excavator equipped with a brush rake) and hand-piling debris, manually lopping and scattering surface and small ladder fuels, prescribed jackpot burning and underburning in oak woodlands to stimulate oak regeneration.... In addition, the Proposed Action would thin trees growing in plantations and oak woodlands bordering roadways, beyond the 275-foot maximum on one side of FSRs. Additionally, along the outer perimeter of the plantations, hazardous fuels reduction treatments would be implemented to establish a 150-foot flank or buffer intersecting with the roadway."\*\*

\*\* This is from federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the 1<sup>st</sup> 48 Roadside Fuelbreak Collaborative Project <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51215">https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51215</a>

EXEMPTION STATUS					
$\boxtimes$	Categorical Exemption	Type/Section: Class 4 § 15304			
		Minor Alterations to Land			
	Statutory Exemption (state code section):				
	Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)				
	Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))				
	Emergency Project (§21	080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))			

## REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at The Watershed Research and Training Center 96 Clinic Ave. Hayfork, CA 96041.

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Helgo Eng, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 23 2018

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